

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 016234

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ORIGIN NEA-03

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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O 221626Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 016234

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 00481 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON

22 JAN 76

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0481

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SA, YE

SUBJECT: BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN TALKS ON ARMS AID TO THE YAR

REF STATE 15236

1. IF EMBASSY LONDON HAS NOT ALREADY APPROACHED THE FCO
ON BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN PRELIMINARY TALKS ON ARMS
ASSISTANCE TO THE YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC WE RECOMMEND THAT
IT NOT REPEAT NOT DO SO ALONG THE LINES INSTRUCTED REFTEL.

2. THE SAG HAS BEAF TREATING THE WHOLE QUESTION OF THEIR
ASSISTANCE TO THE YAR IN THE MILITARY FIELD AND OUR
COOPERATION WITH THEM AS AN EXTREMELY SENSITIVE MATTER
AND HAVE CONFINED OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM ON THIS
SUBJECT TO A VERY FEW PEOPLE WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF
DEFENSE. WE THINK THAT THE SAG WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT
APPRECIATE OUR DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT WITH THE BRITISH
WITHOUT THEIR APPROVAL AND I WOULD BE VERY
DISAPPOINTED IF YOU DO SO.

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3. WHILE WE AGREE THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH

THE BRITISH AND SHOULD INFORM THEM OF THE JAN 26-27 MEETINGS IN RIYADH WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD SUGGEST TO THE BRITISH THAT THEY INVITE THEMSELVES TO THE MEETINGS. INSTEAD WE PROPOSE THAT AT THE MEETING WE INFORM THE SAUDI SIDE OF OUR DESIRE TO BRING THE UKG INTO DISCUSSIONS OF THE QUESTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ASK SAG PERMISSION TO FULLY BRIEF THE BRITISH ON THE RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS AND SUGGEST THAT THE BRITISH BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT.

4. IF EMBASSY LONDON HAS ALREADY CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS REF-TEL WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY LONDON GO BACK TO THE FCO AND REQUEST THAT THEY TAKE NO ACTION WITH THE SAUDIS AT THIS TIME BUT INSTEAD INFORM THE BRITISH THAT WE INTEND TO REQUEST THAT THE SAUDIS BRING THE BRITISH INTO THE ACTION AS PROPOSED ABOVE.

PORTER
UNQUTE
ROBINSON

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NNN

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